

Republicans Double Down on Plan to End Medicare, Raise Costs for Seniors

Democrats Call on Republicans to Work Together On Bipartisan Deficit Reduction Plan

Yesterday, House Republicans voted in lockstep to deem the Republican budget passed. Their budget makes the wrong choices—ending Medicare and raising costs for seniors while giving tax breaks to the wealthiest Americans. Voting for the Republican budget for the second time means voting again for:

- Raising seniors' health care costs by more than \$6,000 per year
- Reopening the prescription drug donut hole, costing an estimated 4 million seniors who fall into the coverage gap up to \$44 billion by 2020, including \$2.2 billion in 2012 alone.
- Increasing the cost of wellness visits, forcing at least one million seniors and people with disabilities to pay over \$110 million more for this critical service in 2012.
- And requiring 54-year-olds to save an additional \$182,000 more just to cover health care costs.

The American public agrees that the Republican budget is the wrong choice and have rejected it:

- A CNN Opinion Research Corporation poll found that 74% of seniors and nearly 60% of all Americans don't support the Republican plan to end Medicare and even the majority of Republicans oppose the plan.
- An Anzalone Liszt Research poll, found that 54% oppose the Republican plan when they hear a "neutral description" of it.

And last week, the Republicans lost the special election in NY-26, a conservative district, as a result of their budget plan that has the wrong priorities.

But Republicans have ignored the American people and have doubled down on their plan that attempts to balance the budget on the backs of middle class families and seniors. Democrats continue to call on Republicans to reject their partisan agenda and work with Democrats to put forward a plan that reduces the deficit while protecting the middle class, creating jobs and growing the economy.